

## Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 ACDA-19 SAB-01 OMB-01 IO-14 DRC-01

SSO-00 /152 W

----- 016328

P 230712Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1316

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANAMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

DIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 0191

DIA FOR JCS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, US, IR, UK

SUBJ: TRI-NATIONAL-NAVAL EXERCISE ARYA 74

REF: A. STATE 32336

B. KUWAIT 0672

C. JIDDA 0805

D. MANAMA 0086

E. TEHRAN 1367

F. LONDON 02228

1. IN RECENT CONTACTS, EMB OFFICERS HAVE DETECTED AN ALMOST  
PARANOID FEELING AMONG KEY UAEG OFFICIALS WHICH WE BELIEVE STEMS  
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TO SOME EXTENT FROM BASIC MISTRUST OF US POLICY OBJECTIVES TOWARD

ARAB GULF STATES. WHILE THERE ADMITTEDLY ELEMENTS OF ARAB POLITICAL IRRATIONALITY COUPLED WITH LACK OF SOPHISTICATION ON PART LOCAL OFFICIALS INVOLVED, FACT REMAINS THAT NUMBER OF UNRELATED RECENT EVENTS AND PRESS STORIES ARE BEING CITED AS GROWING PROOF THAT US, EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH AGENCY OF ITS POWERFUL CLIENT, IRAN, IS PURSUING CALCULATED POLICY AIMED AT ESTABLISHING ITS CONTROL OVER ARAB GULF LITTORAL.

2. NOTWITHSTANDING OUR DENIALS AND OBVIOUS EFFORTS OF CERTAIN GROUPS TO DISCREDIT US IN AREA, SEVERAL OF OUR MOST RESPECTED GOVT SOURCES REMAIN CONVINCED THAT THERE IS ELEMENT OF TRUTH IN ARAB PRESS ALLEGATIONS OF US PLANS TO INVADE ABU DHABI AND PLOT BY AMERICAN GIRL AND HER "GANG" TO KIDNAP UAE OIL MINISTER. OF LATE WHENEVER OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF, OUR SOURCES EXPRESS THEIR APPREHENSIONS OVER A) WHAT THEY CONSIDER DANGEROUS AND UNHEALTHY MILITARY BUILD-UP BEING UNDERTAKEN BY IRANIAN ARMED FORCES WITH FULL SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF USG, AS WELL AS B) INTRODUCTION OF IRANIAN COMBAT UNITS INTO DHOFAR CAMPAIGN. BOTH OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE VIEWED HERE AS POTENTIAL THREATS TO SECURITY OF NEIGHBORING ARAB STATES. WHILE REACTION OF UAEG WAS GENERALLY UNDERSTANDING TO US/UK AGREEMENT TO EXPAND FACILITIES DIEGO GARCIA BASE, WE NONETHELESS DETECTED SLIGHT SUB-SURFACE UNEASINESS AMONG CONTACTS THAT THIS AGREEMENT REPRESENTED YET ANOTHER STEP IN USG "GRAND DESIGN" TO ASSURE POL AND MIL SUPREMACY IN THE GULF AND INDIAN OCEAN. TO EXTENT ARYA EXERCISE BECOMES PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE THEREFORE, REACTION WITHIN UAE WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY BE UNFAVORABLE.

3. WITH ABOVE AS BACKGROUND, WE WISH CONCUR FULLY IN APPROACH TO ARYA EXERCISE PROPOSED BY AMB STOLTZFUS, NAMELY THAT VENUE SHOULD, IF POSSIBLE, BE FROM PERSIAN GULF TO GULF OF OMAN AND PUBLICITY SHOULD BE EMBARGOED EXCEPT ON "AS ASKED" BASIS. OF COURSE, MOST FAVORABLE THING WE HAVE GOING FOR US IS FACT ARYA CAN BE EXPLAINED AS ROUTINE, ANNUAL EXERCISE, WHICH HAPPENS ALSO INVOLVE LARGER UK CONTINGENT. STRONGLY AGREE WITH POINT MADE PARA 2 TEHRAN 1367 (REFTEL E) THAT MORE EFFECTIVE CLEARANCE PROCEDURES WITHIN USG SHOULD EXIST SO COMMENTS OF FIELD POSTS CAN BE SOLICITED WELL IN ADVANCE OF SCHEDULED JOINT EXERCISE.

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GRIFFIN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, NAVAL EXERCISES, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TRI-NATIONAL-NAVAL EXERCISE ARYA 74  
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